



Season: Spring; Summer

Observing: flowers turning to fruits or seed pods

Equipment: a camera

Science Investigation Skills (1st and 2nd Grades):

Makes observations and asks questions about the natural world.

Makes predictions.

Structure and Function (2nd Grade):

Draws and writes about the life cycles of flowering plants.

What next? After a flower, what comes next?

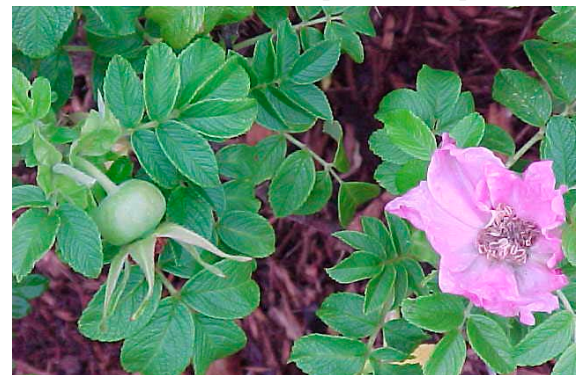


Find a flower in the habitat. Take a picture, then predict what it will do next. Repeat the visit and prediction, once every a week or so.

Plants that are fun to watch:

The roses, either the yellow one near the entrance to the garden along the fence, or the rosa rugosa that is on the left after you turn right after entering the garden.

Roses make large showy fruits, called hips, that are full of seeds. Rose hips are full of Vitamin C. Pick a hip and slice open to observe the seeds.





Catalpas

Viburnums - On the right at the first "intersection" as you walk into the garden in mid May you should spot the flowers. Also there is a bush in the very center circle.

Pretty flower clusters become bright red berries the birds appreciate when everything better tasting has gone in the winter and early spring.



Beach plums...near picnic bench. Across the path from the big catalpa tree. May blooms become small purple plums, good for jam. By June a small fruit will be seen.

Late in summer the fruit may still be there when school gets back in session if you want to predict what made the fruit instead :-). A nice wait until spring.



Onions

...in very center of habitat.

Yucca...

The yucca flowers are taller than many primary students! The yucca flower stems often host a variety of insects, like ants. Yucca nectar is sweet. In their homeland a moth pollinates the yucca. Here, other insects crawl in and do the job.



